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Korea. By ANGUS HAMILTON. Pp. xliv, 313. Maps and Illustrations. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1904.

Mr. Hamilton's book on Korea gives much information about that country. The author shows intimate knowledge of the country and people, describes their customs, pageants, cities and scenery and tells the reader the things he is most likely to wish to know. The style is good, and the book seems to have been carefully written. The foreign trade is keenly analyzed and the political rivalry of Russia and Japan is sketched up to the outbreak of the war.

The country is beautiful to look upon and its beauty is appreciated by the people who are described as well built and showing mixture of Caucasian and Mongolian blood. Plodding like his ox, the native lives by agriculture and household industry in the house of the farmer. Reforms have been made in the government, but "justice is still hedged about with bribery" and "immunity from the demands of the yamen is only found in a condition of extreme poverty." Political efficiency is reflected by the navy, containing twenty-three admirals and having one iron built coal lighter, until quite lately the property of a Japanese steamship company. "Korea is the helpless, hopeless sport of Japanese caprice and Russian lust." The book contains a surprising account of the progress of isolated Korea. The land of morning calm has been "stimulated by association with the Japanese. The contact has been wholly beneficial." The change is almost as noticeable as in Japan and is evidenced by the growth of Chemulpo since its opening as a treaty port. In the twenty years that have elapsed it has risen from a fishing village to a prosperous port, having 20,000 people, a prosperous trade, a liberal supply of telephone and telegraph and a railway to the capital which is using electric lights and street cars.

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A History of Matrimonial Institutions. By GEORGE ELLIOTT HOWARD. Three volumes of 1465 pages. Price, \$10.00. Chicago: University Press. 1904.

One of the most valuable contributions to sociological literature that has appeared in a long time is "A History of Matrimonial Institutions," by Prof. George Elliott Howard of the University of Chicago. The work is valuable not merely because of the importance of the subject, but by reason of the thoroughness of treatment of which each page gives evidence. It is a remarkable piece of work and will immediately take rank as a standard authority. The author has stated his conclusions clearly and forcibly, supporting them by abundant evidence, giving at the same time place to all opposing testimony. Each chapter is prefaced by a bibliographical note, often pages in length, while footnotes with detailed references abound on nearly every page. At the last of the work is a classified bibliographical index nearly one hundred and fifty pages in length which will be of great service.

The study opens (Part I, 250 pages) with an excellent resumé of the various theories of primitive matrimonial institutions. I do not know where else to find such a lucid and masterly exposition. No distinctly new material is here presented and Professor Howard agrees in general with Westermarck. "At the